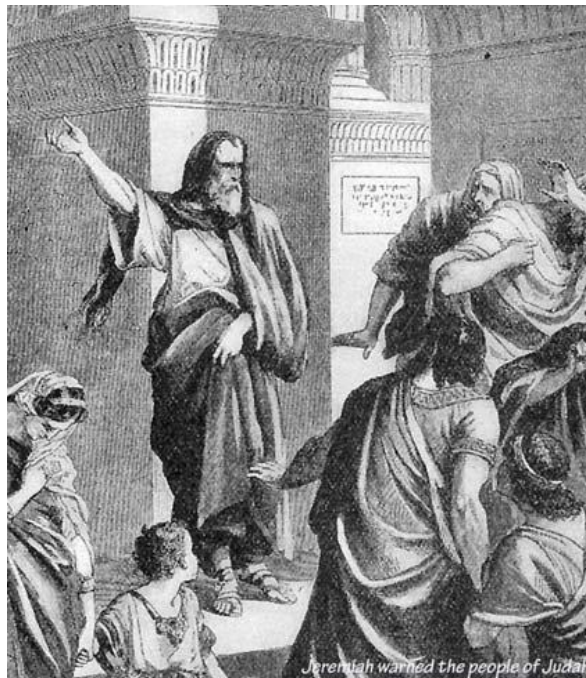


HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
2003 N.E. Englewood Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64118
816.452.9113

“You will recognize them by their fruits.”



Divine Service One
Eighth Sunday after Trinity
July 26, 2026

Rev. Dr. Craig A. Meissner, Pastor
Website: <http://holycrosskc.org>
Email: church@holycrosskc.org

Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

Our Lord gives both directions and warnings in Scripture when it comes to the precious gift of Holy Communion, which we take great care to follow. If you are not under the spiritual care of Holy Cross, please speak with the pastor before communing so that our unity with Christ and with one another may be genuine. Our aim is not to insult, but to instruct and prepare those who earnestly desire to join our communion. So, if you or your children are not yet communicants, you may come forward for a blessing tied to baptism, and you are encouraged to signify this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor comes by. The Blood of Christ is offered either in individual glasses, or simply hold out your hand to take the chalice by the base as you drink from it.

It is appropriate to bow the head at italicized words; to bow at the waist at the italicized words in this font; to make the sign of the cross when you see ✠ printed.

Prelude

Please stand and face the procession

583 God Has Spoken by His Prophets



1 God has spo - ken by His proph - ets, Spo - ken His un - chang - ing Word;
2 God has spo - ken by Christ Je - sus, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
3 God is speak - ing by His Spir - it, Speak - ing to our hearts a - gain,



Each from age to age pro - claim - ing God, the one, the righ - teous Lord.
Bright - ness of the Fa - ther's glo - ry, With the Fa - ther ev - er one;
In the age - less Word de - clar - ing His own mes - sage, now as then.



In the world's de - spair and tur - moil, One firm an - chor holds us fast:
Spo - ken by the Word In - car - nate, God of God, be - fore time was;
Through the rise and fall of na - tions One sure faith yet stand - ing fast;



God is king, His throne e - ter - nal; God the first, and God the last.
Light of Light, to earth de - scend - ing, He re - veals our God to us.
God a - bides, His Word un - chang - ing; God the first, and God the last.

Text: George W. Briggs, 1875–1959, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79

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Tune: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 184

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ Service of the Word+

Introit

Psalm 48:1, 3, 11, 14; antiphon: vv. 9–10



We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God,*
in the midst of your | temple.

As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth.*
Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised*
in the city of our God, his holy | mountain.

Within her | citadels*

God has made himself known as a | fortress.

Let Mount Zion | be glad!*

Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your | judgments!
This is God, our God forever and | ever.*

He will guide us for- | ever.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God,*
in the midst of your | temple.

As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth.*
Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

Kyrie

LSB 186

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament

Jeremiah 23:16–29

¹⁶Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak

visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. ¹⁷They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’”

¹⁸For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD
to see and to hear his word,
or who has paid attention to his word and listened?

¹⁹Behold, the storm of the LORD!
Wrath has gone forth,
a whirling tempest;
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.

²⁰The anger of the LORD will not turn back
until he has executed and accomplished
the intents of his heart.

In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

²¹“I did not send the prophets,
yet they ran;
I did not speak to them,
yet they prophesied.

²²But if they had stood in my council,
then they would have proclaimed my words to my people,
and they would have turned them from their evil way,
and from the evil of their deeds.

²³“Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God afar off? ²⁴Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ ²⁶How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word

Speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 31:2b, 1a



Be a rock of ref- | uge for me,*
a strong fortress to | save me!
In you, O LORD, do I take | refuge;*
let me never be | put to shame.

Epistle

Acts 20:27–38

²⁷[Paul said:] “For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one’s silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

³⁶And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. ³⁷And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, ³⁸being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse of the Day

Psalms 78:1



P Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!



Holy Gospel

Matthew 7:13–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventh chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹³“Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. ¹⁵[Jesus said:] “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear

good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

²¹“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

²²On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

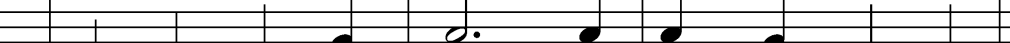
And in one Lord *Jesus Christ,*
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and *was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary*
and *was made man;*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together *is worshiped*
and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

745 In God, My Faithful God



1 In God, my faith - ful God, I trust when dark my road;
 2 My sins fill me with care, Yet I will not de - spair.
 3 If death my por - tion be, It brings great gain to me;
 4 O Je - sus Christ, my Lord, So meek in deed and word,
 5 "So be it," then, I say With all my heart each day.



Great woes may o - ver - take me, Yet He will not for - sake me.
I build on Christ, who loves me; From this rock noth - ing moves me.
It speeds my life's en - deav - or To live with Christ for - ev - er.
You suf - fered death to save us Be - cause Your love would have us
Dear Lord, we all a - dore You, We sing for joy be - fore You.



My trou - bles He can al - ter; His hand lets noth - ing fal - ter.
To Him I will sur - ren - der, To Him, my soul's de - fend - er.
He gives me joy in sor - row, Come death now or to - mor - row.
Be heirs of heav'n - ly glad - ness When ends this life of sad - ness.
Guide us while here we wan - der Un - til we praise You yon - der.

Text: Veer schöne nye Geistlike Leder, before 1603, Lübeck; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Kurtzweilige deutsche Lieder, 1576, Nürnberg, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Votum

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

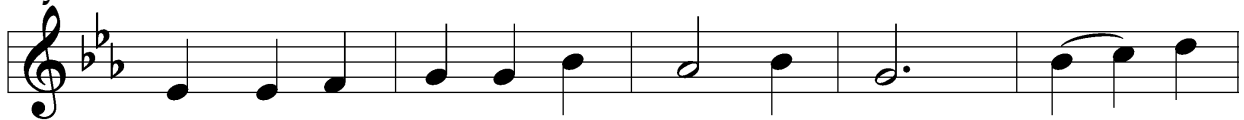
C Amen.

Offering - *Please place your offering and attendance card in the plate as it is passed.*

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

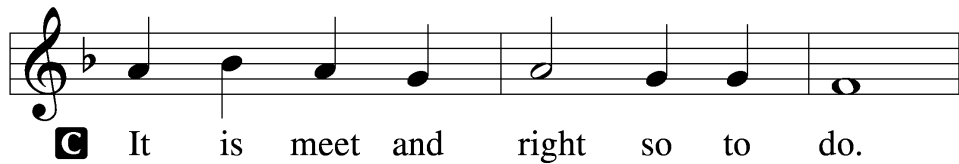
Prayer of the Church

+ Service of the Sacrament +

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir - it.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them up un - to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



Proper Preface

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195 (Sung)

C *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*
Blessed is He, blessed is He ✠, blessed is He that cometh in
the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but ✠ deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: *“Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”*

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: *“Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”*

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

Sit

647 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head



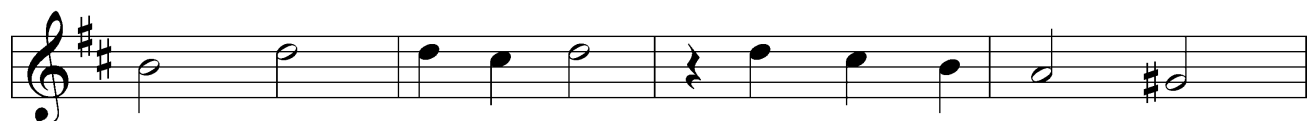
1 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Church's head, You are her one foun -
2 O Lord, let this Your lit - tle flock, Your name a - lone con -
3 Help us to serve You ev - er - more With hearts both pure and
4 And for Your Gos - pel let us dare To sac - ri - fice all



da - tion; In You she trusts, be - fore You bows, And
fess - ing, Con - tin - ue in Your lov - ing care, True
low - ly; And may Your Word, that light di - vine, Shine
trea - sure; Teach us to bear Your bless - ed cross, To



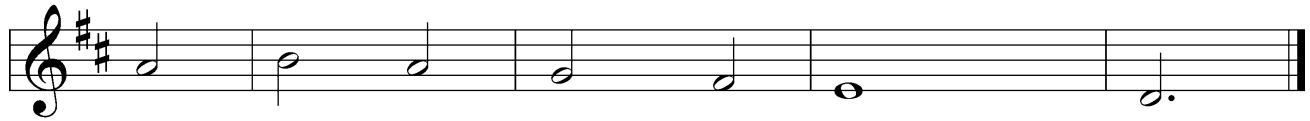
waits for Your sal - va - tion. Built on this rock se - cure,
u - ni - ty pos - sess - ing. Your sac - ra - ments, O Lord,
on in splen - dor ho - ly That we re - pen - tance show,
find in You all plea - sure. O grant us stead - fast - ness



Your Church shall en - dure Though all the world de -
And Your sav - ing Word To us, Lord, pure re -
In faith ev - er grow; The pow'r of sin de -
In joy and dis - tress, Lest we, Lord, You for -



cay And all things pass a - way.
tain. Grant that they may re - main
stroy And e - vils that an - noy.
sake. Let us by grace par - take



O hear, O hear us, Je - sus!
Our on - ly strength and com - fort.
O make us faith - ful Chris - tians.
Of end - less joy and glad - ness.

Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734; tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891–1976, alt.

Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003383

Tune: Public domain

668 Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You



1 Rise! To arms! With prayer em-ploy you, O Chris-tians, lest the
2 Cast a - far this world's vain plea - sure And bold - ly strive for
3 Wise - ly fight, for time is fleet - ing; The hours of grace are



foe de-destroy you; For Sa - tan has de-signed your fall.
heav'n-ly trea - sure. Be stead-fast in the Sav - ior's might.
fast re - treat - ing; Short, short is this our earth - ly way.



Wield God's Word, the weap - on glo - rious; A - gainst all foes be
Trust the Lord, who stands be - side you, For Je - sus from all
When the Lord the dead will wak - en And sin - ners all by



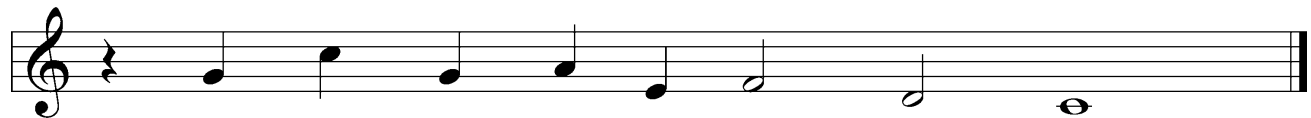
thus vic - to - rious, For God pro-TECTS you from them all.
harm will hide you. By faith you con-quer in the fight.
fear are shak - en, The saints with joy will greet that day.



Fear not the hordes of hell, Here is Em - man - u - el.
Take cour - age, wea - ry soul! Look for - ward to the goal!
Praise God, our tri-umph's sure. We need not long en-dure



Hail the Sav - ior! The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield,
 Joy a - waits you. The race well run, Your long war won,
 Scorn and tri - al. Our Sav - ior King His own will bring



And we, the vic - tors, hold the field.
 Your crown shines splen - did as the sun.
 To that great glo - ry which we sing.

Text: Wilhelm Erasmus Arends, 1677–1721; tr. John M. Sloan, 1835–after 1890, alt.
 Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
 Text and tune: Public domain

586 Preach You the Word



1 Preach you the Word and plant it home To men who
 2 We know how hard, O Lord, the task Your ser - vant
 3 The sow - er sows; his reck - less love Scat - ters a -
 4 Though some be snatched and some be scorched And some be



like or like it not, The Word that shall en -
 bade us un - der - take: To preach Your Word and
 broad the good - ly seed, In - tent a - lone that
 choked and mat - ted flat, The sow - er sows; his



dure and stand When flow'rs and men shall be for - got.
 nev - er ask What pride - ful prof - it it may make.
 all may have The whole - some loaves that all men need.
 heart cries out, "Oh, what of that, and what of that?"

- 5 Of all his scattered plenteousness
 One-fourth waves ripe on hill and flat,
 And bears a harvest hundredfold:
 "Ah, what of that, Lord, what of that!"

6 Preach you the Word and plant it home
And never faint; the Harvest Lord
Who gave the sower seed to sow
Will watch and tend His planted Word.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt.

Tune: Rheinfelssisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch, 1666, Augsburg

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Stand

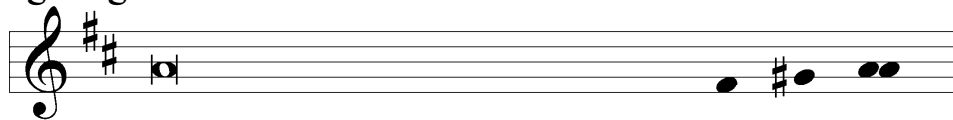
Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199 (Sung)

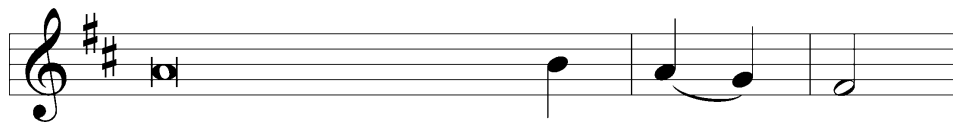
C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy
salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all
people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy
people Israel. *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to
the Holy Ghost;* as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us
through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy
You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in
fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our

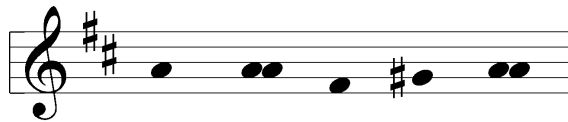
Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.



C A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201



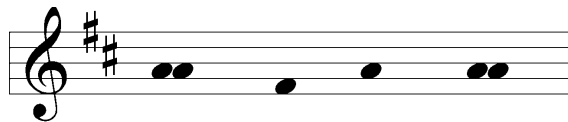
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

Please face the procession, returning after it passes

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple, using mostly quarter and half notes. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each corresponding to a staff. The first system has three lines of lyrics. The second system has three lines. The third system has three lines. The score ends with a double bar line.

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and

by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal

Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

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Communion Elder. Luther Salonen
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